



# Quarterly Connection

**OCTOBER 2006**

North Dakota Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation  
3100 Railroad Avenue ♦ PO Box 1898 ♦ Bismarck, ND 58502-1898

## Special points of interest:

- Director's Comments (*front cover*)
- DOCR Contacts (*page 2*)
- Message from the Editor (*page 3*)
- Upcoming State Holidays (*page 3*)
- Parole Board & Pardon Advisory Board Meeting Dates (*page 3*)
- Parole Board & Pardon Advisory Board Members (*page 3*)
- Account/Payroll Division Contacts (*page 4*)
- EAP (*page 4*)
- 2004/2005 DOCR Employees of the Year (*page 4*)
- DOCR Personnel News (*page 5*)
- DOCR Services Awards (*page 6*)
- DOCR Mission Statement (*back cover*)

## Inside this issue:

JCS 2005 Employee of the Year	1
JRCC SORT Team Update	2
2006 Educator of the Year (NDALL)	3
15th Annual Teaching and Technology Conference	4
MRCC Automotive Technology	5
Announcing a New Master in Education	5
West Central Wardens and Superintendents Association Conference	5
RN Judy Frey Retires	6
We The People	6
Inmates Crocheting for Families of Slain Soldiers	7
Prisons Division Brings Corrections to the Forefront of Shooting Competition	8
Congratulations to Kevin Arthaud	8
Medicine With A Mission	9
Building Cornerstones of Education	10

## Director's Comments

It has been a busy and eventful summer and autumn for the DOCR. Lisa Bjergaard assumed the position of Division of Juvenile Services Director on September 1, 2006. Lisa has been with the Division for more than 17 years. Prior to assuming the Director position, Lisa was the East Regional Manager for Juvenile Community Services.

The North Central Correctional and Rehabilitation Center (NCCRC) in Rugby, North Dakota, opened its doors for business. The first DOCR offenders were placed into the Community Corrections Treatment Program beds the week of September 4, 2006. The programming will provide services to inmates, parolees, or probationers referred by the DOCR who may otherwise

be incarcerated in a DOCR Prison facility. The purpose of the program is to provide chemical addiction treatment, case management, and supportive transitional services relating to chemical use, criminal thinking, and mental health. A special thanks to DOCR staff, especially those on the Case Planning Committee, for all the work they did to screen and place the appropriate offenders in the NCCRC treatment program.

A lot of hard work and time was put into completing the 2007-2009 budget request. There are a lot of critical needs within the DOCR with equitable salaries and additional FTEs topping the list. A major piece of the budget request will be for the building and/or renovation



*Leann Bertsch*

project at the North Dakota State Penitentiary. Although the interim committee, tasked with developing a strategic plan for the DOCR, may not be in agreement on whether the existing NDSP should be remodeled or replaced, there is agreement that the facility needs at NDSP must be addressed. The time is right.

## JCS 2005 Employee of the Year

By Susan Wagner, West Regional Manager  
DOCR / Juvenile Community Services

Sydney Hove, Juvenile Corrections Specialist I, North Central Regional DJS Office received the Employee of the Year award at the May 2006 DJS Quarterly Meeting. Sydney began his employment with DJS at the NDYCC in June of 1992 when the facility was known as North Dakota Industrial School. He began work as a Resident Counselor and gradually worked his way up

to a counselor position in June of 1994. Sydney worked in that role in Hickory and Pine Cottages before transferring to a Human Relations Counselor position in the West Central Regional DJS office. He then transferred to the North Central Regional Office in June of 1996. Sydney has consistently demonstrated a genuine concern for youth and their families and the ability to balance doing what's best for them with

community safety. In addition to the usual duties of a case manager, Sydney took the initiative to implement a parenting class and offers that to parents of youth under the custody of DJS and other systems. He also facilitates EQUIP groups on a regular basis in the regional office.

Congratulations Sydney and thank you for the dedication and quality work you do every day!

## DOCR Contacts

### Central Office

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 Business Manager.....667-1407  
 Resident Care & Tx Director.....667-1408  
 Medical Service.....667-1469  
 Physical Plant Director.....667-1406  
 Receiving & Development Coord.....667-1449  
 Personnel/Training Director.....667-1465

### Prisons Division

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#### Missouri River Correctional Center (MRCC)

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#### Rough Rider Industries (RRI)

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## JRCC SORT Team Update

By Tyler Falk, Assistant Team Leader  
 DOCR Prisons Division / JRCC

In the early morning hours of September 13, 2006, JRCC staff from the Crisis Negotiation Team (CNT) and SORT received a call for assistance by the Jamestown Police Department.

An individual allegedly armed with an automatic rifle fired numerous rounds from his trailer into the surrounding neighborhood around 3:30 a.m. A standoff ensued when the police arrived on scene. Shortly thereafter, CNT personnel from JRCC arrived and immediately tried to establish communications with the individual.

At approximately 7:30 a.m., SORT was activated to assist in the incident. Six members arrived on the scene at 8:30 a.m. and were deployed as part of the inner perimeter containment of the incident area and to relieve Jamestown and Valley City Special Operations personnel. CNT continued to try and establish communications with the individual as

different techniques and ideas were tried.

The standoff continued into the afternoon as more SORT and CNT members arrived on scene, and a robot from the Bismarck Police Department arrived to assist in the incident. The robot was able to deliver throw phones and cameras into the trailer to provide additional intelligence. All members of the response teams continued to maintain the inner perimeter security as the incident dragged on.

By late afternoon, no communications had been established with the individual and Bismarck SWAT arrived to provide additional relief and options to the response teams already involved. Several JRCC correctional officers volunteered to relieve the police, sheriff and highway patrol officers that were providing security to the outer perimeter. After sixteen hours of attempts at communicating with the individual, the decision was made to resolve the incident with a tactical entry. JRCC SORT provided backup



to the entry/arrest teams as they utilized less lethal and distraction devices to make entry and take the individual into custody without resistance.

This incident was the second time that staff from the JRCC were called upon to assist local law enforcement in a major situation. (The first was when the CNT was called to assist several months ago) SORT and CNT have been working with the Jamestown and Valley Police Departments for several years through special operations training.

The work and effort put in by individuals and as a team is paying dividends. This incident showed confidence in the correctional field by our peers and the community that we can be an asset to other agencies and will continue to be available whenever called upon.

## 2006 Educator of the Year (NDALL)

By Tammy Barstad, Education Programs Coord.  
DOCR Prisons Division / NDSP

The North Dakota Association for Lifelong Learners (NDALL) has announced their Educator of the Year for 2006 – Miriam Gilbertson, an instructor in the Prisons Division of the ND Department of Corrections. Miriam has been an adult education teacher for 25 years and is a role model who demonstrates daily patience and loyalty.

Miriam works relentlessly to help her students understand what they need to be successful in passing the GED tests. Hundreds of students have benefited from her daily encouragement with approximately 2000 earning their GED's.

A quick welcoming smile is how students are greeted each day. One of Miriam's greatest concerns is to help her students get off to a good start. In this unique setting, students are often very apprehensive about having to go back to school, a setting that brings to them only

memories of failure and frustration. Miriam guides them carefully through the program curriculum, providing examples of students who sat in those same chairs, with those same fears and who were successful in the end. She often speaks about her oldest student who was in his 70's and couldn't have been prouder at his achievement.

Miriam is almost more excited than the students to get the GED test results. The director has often been heard to ask her if she'd like the scores checked even before he has sent them in!

Some of the comments that have come from her students are:

*They are surprised that they actually look forward to coming to school.*

*It is one of the best times of their day.*

*She helps to create a very positive environment in the education department. She has received countless thank-you(s) and letters from students.*



*"If it weren't for her believing in me, I wouldn't have gotten my GED."*

*"She believed in me, I never thought I'd get my GED but I did."*

Although the recognition this teacher values most is the success achieved by her students, this year's Educator of the Year Award was presented to Miriam Gilbertson at the 2006 annual NDALL conference held at the Radisson Inn in Bismarck ND on September 22 for her commitment and unending enthusiasm for her students and coworkers. Working in a correctional setting requires a unique type of individual and Miriam is just such a person. One adult education teacher was heard to say that she was glad to hear when one of her students ended up at the penitentiary because then they would get their GED.

### A Message from the Editor

The *DOCR Quarterly Connection Newsletter* is an official publication of the North Dakota Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, and is published four times each year. Its goal is to enhance communication and keep staff, and all those interested, informed of developments and achievements throughout the Department.

All employees are encouraged to submit articles, letters, comments, and ideas for future issues of the *DOCR Quarterly Connection*, to be considered in the next publication.

The Editor reserves the right to edit or exclude, if deemed inappropriate, any items submitted for publication. Please email articles to:

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ND Department of Corrections & Rehabilitation  
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### Upcoming State Holidays...

<b>OCTOBER 2006</b> .....	None
<b>NOVEMBER 2006</b> .....	
Veteran's Day.....	11
(offices will be closed November 10th)	
Thanksgiving Day.....	23
<b>DECEMBER 2006</b> .....	
Christmas Day.....	25

### Parole Board Meeting Dates for 2006

January 8-9	July 9-10
February 6-7	August 6-7
March 5-6	September 10-11
April 2-3	<b>October 8-9</b>
May 7-8	<b>November 5-6</b>
June 4-5	<b>December 3-4</b>

### Parole Board Members

Parole Board Members are appointed by the Governor for a three-year term. The Parole Board Members are listed as follows:

Member	Location
John Olson, <i>Chairman</i>	Bismarck
Dick Davison	Bismarck
William Gipp	Bismarck
Nels Olson	Bismarck
Budd Warren	Fargo
Beverley Adams	Fargo

### Pardon Advisory Board Dates for 2006

April 4	<b>November 14</b>
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### Pardon Advisory Board Members

Pardon Advisory Board Members are appointed by the Governor for an open ended term to include the attorney general, two members of the parole board, and 2 citizens/residents of the state. The Pardon Advisory Board Members are listed as follows:

Member	Location
Duane Dekrey, <i>Chairman</i>	Pettibone
Craig Smith	Bismarck
Wayne Stenehjem	Bismarck
William Gipp	Bismarck
Beverley Adams	Fargo



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##### JRCC

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### Field Services Division

#### Central Office & Community

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## Employee Assistance Program

The Employee Assistance Program (EAP) is a confidential assessment/counseling/referral service staffed by trained professionals who can help you and your family members evaluate your problems and take positive action to resolve them.

St. Alexis/Heartview have clinical staff available to provide assessment, referral, and short-term counseling. Access to EAP can be obtained 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by calling:

**St. Alexis Medical Center/Heartview**  
Employee Assistance Program  
**530-7195 (or) 1-800-327-7195**

Please feel free to call for help and/or advice at any time. When calling after working hours, please ask for the EAP staff member on call.

## DOCR EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR

### DJS Community

2004: Tony Kozojed  
2005: Sydney Hove

### Field Services

2005: Rick Hoekstra

### State Penitentiary

2004: Barb Gross  
2005: Joe Charvat

### JRCC

2004: Jody Buechler  
2005: Clyde St. Claire

## 15th Annual Teaching and Technology Conference

By Karen Hook, Business Education  
DOCR / Youth Correctional Center

*"Tell me and I forget, show me and I may not remember, involve me and I'll understand."*

-Native American saying

Ask someone to define technology and you can collect varied results. Technology to the agriculture person may mean the extended resources incorporated in the farming equipment such as GPS. The medical technician may tell you that technology means a device designed to detect cancer earlier or even to develop cures to various medical difficulties. Ask the educator to define technology and the sounds of opportunity can be heard all around.

The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Teaching and Technology Conference, TNT, held August 1-3, 2006, provided exceptional opportunities of learning and new awareness for all educators who attended. Three NDYCC-Marmot School teachers, Charlene Jones (Art), Karen Hook (Business Education), and William Fleck

(Math-Special Management Programs) attended this conference. TNT showcased the latest technology being used in schools as well as offering many hands-on sessions to extend awareness of new and existing technology. The keynote address offered inspiration to instructors of attitude and hope.

Karen Hook, Business Education instructor at YCC said that her goal for attending the conference was particularly to unlock new insights and learning for her students. She indicates her plan of action to be that of assisting her students in raising their standards of learning and knowledge by offering them the technological insight from the conference sessions.

Right at the top of the list this year is Atomic Learning. Atomic Learning, known as 'AL', is short, easy-to-view-and-understand tutorial movies that answer the common questions about software provided free to all public schools in

North Dakota. AL can be used as course curriculum for students or a supplement to stand-up training. While students, faculty and staff alike can utilize this valuable resource to answer software problems they encounter, AL also offers curriculum tools for the instructor. This easy-to-use, affordable resource looks to offer a wealth of useful learning to the youth at YCC.

Digital Storytelling was another session presented at TNT. Some faculty at YCC have been integrating this movie making technology into core curriculum and learning students are responding well.

A third highlight from TNT was the demonstration and enthusiasm for ACTIVboards in the Classroom. Perhaps the monumental occurrence at YCC-Marmot Schools has been the implementation of four ACTIVboards. Teachers are 'actively' utilizing this expansion of technology in their classrooms.

## MRCC Automotive Technology

By Bill Cossette, Automotive Instructor  
DOCR Prisons Division / MRCC

The Missouri River Correctional Center Automotive Technology program received the Al Maresh Award for excellence in computer – assisted instruction from the Correction Education

Association. The automotive technology program is certified by the National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence in Automotive/Electronic Systems, Brakes, Engine Repair, and Air Conditioning and meets standards set by

education and industry. The MRCC Automotive Technology program is offered through the North Dakota Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and Bismarck State College.

## Announcing a New Master in Education

By Tammy Barstad, Education Programs Coord.  
DOCR Prisons Division / NDSP

Rose Kreitingner, LD Instructor in the Prisons Division of the North Dakota Department of Corrections, obtained her masters degree on August 4, 2006, from the University of North Dakota with a Masters of Education, Special Education -Learning

Disabilities.

Rose started as a security officer in 1989. She worked a variety of areas within the institution before becoming the property officer in 2000. She made the move to the education department in August 2002.

A native of Golva ND,

Rose earned her Bachelor of Science degree from Dickinson State University in Business and Physical Education. She began her teaching career in Mission SD moving to Bismarck in 1988. Rose started working at the North Dakota State Penitentiary to be closer to home.

## West Central Wardens and Superintendents Association Conference

By Don Redmann, Warden  
DOCR Prisons Division / JRCC

The WCWSA held its annual conference in Jamestown on September 10-13 with President Don Redmann, JRCC Warden, presiding. The conference was attended by 24 Wardens from Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, and North Dakota. Leann Bertsch, DOCR Director, was the keynote speaker at the banquet held on Sunday night to open the conference. Many training opportunities

were given to include updates to correctional law given by Asst. Attorney Generals Jean Mullen and Ken Sorenson, Leadership training by BOP Director Harley Lappin, NIC Divisional Director Robert Brown, and training on Native American Gangs by Christopher Grant. The conference hosted many activities to include golf, pitchfork fondue, a night at the Frontier Fort and Buffalo Museum. This was the first time the

conference was held in North Dakota and many of the people attending stated it was one of the best they had attended. This conference was successful because of all the support I received during the planning and executing the conference events. Many staff from JRCC and others helped make everything run smoothly. It was a great opportunity to serve as President of the Association and to showcase North Dakota to our guests.

## DOCR PERSONNEL NEWS

### New to DOCR

**DJS, Community Services Division**  
Juvenile Corrections Specialist ..... Craig Wysk  
Megan Gill ..... Teri Wahl (from YCC)  
Nancy Kostecky ..... Lea Schmid (from YCC)  
**DJS, Youth Correctional Center**  
Substitute Teacher ..... Robin Doll  
Cook II ..... Dan Greff  
Rec Director ..... Matt Nelson  
Temp JIRS I ..... James Foley  
Carisa Upton ..... Casey Traynor  
**Field Services Division**  
PO II ..... Darin Cote  
Temp Admin Support ..... Twyla Llewellyn  
**Prisons Division**  
**JRCC**  
Food Service Operations Superv I ..... Mark Oster  
Colleen Nelson  
Registered Nurse II ..... Alecia Brady  
**NDSP**  
Social Worker II ..... LuVae Priess  
Addiction Counselor II ..... Nancy Brannan  
Office Assistant III ..... Tammy Klusdahl

### Position Changes/Promotions

**DOCR Central Office**  
Admin Assist III to Admin Staff Officer ..... Jeannine Platz  
**DJS, Community Services Division**  
DJS East Reg Manager to DJS Director ..... Lisa Bjergaard  
Juvenile Corr Specialist to DJS East Regional Manager  
..... Cory Pedersen  
Asst Superintendent/Treatment Director at YCC to  
DJS West Reg Manager ..... Ross Munns  
**DJS, Youth Correctional Center**  
JIRS I to JIRS II ..... Tennille Weising  
Temp JIRS I to JIRS I ..... Katie Daugherty  
..... Lee Nagel  
**Field Services Division**  
Admin II to CCA I ..... Sherri Allard  
Program Manager to PO II ..... Kara Carr  
PO II to PO III ..... John Knutson  
..... Kristin Plessas  
Admin II to CCA I ..... Suzette Schaefer  
PO II to Program Manager ..... Chad Hoornaert  
**Prisons Division**  
**JRCC**  
SW III to Corr Program Administrator ..... John Evanson  
Temp CO to CO I ..... James Hannig  
Christopher Isakson ..... Brittney Carpenter  
CO I to CO II ..... Brandi Netolicky  
..... Robert Tollefson  
CO II to Correctional Caseworker ..... Jody Larson  
Sara Eckroth ..... Holly Froehlich  
CCW to Human Relations Counselor ..... Chad Netolicky  
Food Service Operations Supv I to II ..... Dian Roltzen  
**NDSP**  
Temp CO to CO I ..... Rick Hohhalter  
Joey Joyce ..... Matt Geiger  
CO I to CO II ..... Ron Ness  
Ray Vogel ..... Casey Wiedmeier

### Retirements

**DJS, Community Services Division**  
DJS Director ..... Alton Lick  
**DJS, Youth Correctional Center**  
R & D Coordinator ..... Albert "Buck" Nelson  
**Prisons Division**  
**JRCC**  
Registered Nurse II ..... Judy Frey  
**NDSP**  
Administrative Assistant I ..... Jean Weatherly

### Left Employment with DOCR

**DJS, Community Services Division**  
Juvenile Corrections Specialist ..... Lisa Severson  
Juvenile Corrections Specialist ..... Luke McKay  
West Regional Manager ..... Susan Wagner  
**DJS, Youth Correctional Center**  
JIRS I (to DJS Community Services Division) ..... Teri Wahl  
JIRS II (to DJS Community Services Division) ..... Lea Schmid  
Summer Teacher ..... Todd Sheldon  
..... Shawn Kuntz  
Summer Work Supervisor ..... Jennifer Kranda  
..... Wade Ulmer  
Rec Director ..... Mike Porter  
JIRS I ..... Dawn Severson  
JIRS II ..... Jeremy Ward  
**Field Services Division**  
CCA I .....  
Temp Admin Support .....  
**Prisons Division**  
**JRCC**  
Corrections Trainee ..... Kent Anderson  
CO II ..... Michael Lucht  
Sonja Nitschke ..... Thomas Koushkovski  
..... Charles Delcamp  
Correctional Caseworker ..... Clyde St. Claire  
..... Patrick Hart  
Human Relations Counselor ..... Heather Lashman  
Food Service Operations Supv I ..... Gloria Guthmiller  
Food Service Operations Supv II ..... Paul Weber  
**NDSP**  
CO II ..... Leo Adam  
Christopher Bertsch ..... Daniel Johnson  
Addiction Counselor II ..... Shyla Reuter  
Office Assistant III ..... Mary Jane Uniman

## 2005 DOCR SERVICE AWARDS

### FIVE YEARS

<b>DOCR Central Office</b> .....	Rod Pegors
<b>DJS Community</b>	
Rhonda Bry .....	Shannon Hallahan
<b>ND YCC</b> .....	Bill Fleck
Tonie Garcia.....	Heidi Gunsch
Rick Makelky.....	Dan Weising
Tennille Weising.....	Tony White Bear
<b>Field Services Division</b> .....	Rachel Wallock
Camilla Jensen.....	Colleen Weller
Lloyd Haagenon .....	Debra Frank
<b>State Penitentiary</b>	
Cissandra Christopherson .....	Troy Gross
Stacy Goehring.....	Ken Johnson
Paulette Schmidt .....	Russell Wolf
<b>JRCC</b>	
Brenda Beckman .....	Joey Cotton
Shawn Cudmore-Kremer .....	Brian Dreher
Kay Eagleson .....	Melannie Flynn
Ben Kennelly.....	Carl Krovoza
Jeffrey Lorenz.....	Lyle Mee
Arnold Middlestead.....	Chad Netolicky
Cameron Petrek.....	Donna Schwartz

### TEN YEARS

<b>DJS Community</b> .....	Roberta Lagasse
David Lundy .....	Cory Pedersen
<b>ND YCC</b> .....	Andy Anderson
Cindy Dykema .....	Jeremy Ward
Pat Martin .....	Jana Ternes
<b>Field Services Division</b>	
Corey Schlenger.....	Patrick Bohn
Kristin Plessas-McLeod .....	John Gourde
<b>State Penitentiary</b> .....	Doug Baumiller
Frank Connell.....	Terry Kirchoffner
Thomas Lannoye .....	Terrance Moravec
<b>JRCC</b> .....	Martin Bjergaard
Connie Hackman .....	Paul Weber

### FIFTEEN YEARS

<b>ND YCC</b> .....	Sandy Haas
.....	Donna St. Moritz
<b>Field Services Division</b> .....	Lois Merkel
<b>State Penitentiary</b> .....	Mike Bryant
Paul Kellam.....	John Lang
Beth Taghon.....	Jean Weatherly
<b>JRCC</b> .....	Dale Price

### TWENTY YEARS

<b>DOCR Central Office</b> .....	Dave Krabbenhoft
<b>ND YCC</b>	
Mary Baird.....	Lenore Kuntz
<b>Field Services Division</b>	
Timothy Brehm.....	Nancy Heit
Peggy Headrick .....	Janice Young
<b>State Penitentiary</b>	
Craig McGarvey, Sr. ....	Darrell Theurer
<b>JRCC</b>	
Judy Frey .....	Diane Rolfzen
<b>Rough Rider Industries</b> .....	Dennis Fracassi

### TWENTY FIVE YEARS

<b>ND YCC</b> .....	Bob Urlacher
<b>State Penitentiary</b>	
Gary Greig .....	Michael Smith
<b>JRCC</b> .....	Dennis Waltz
<b>Rough Rider Industries</b> .....	Paul Rittenbach

### THIRTY YEARS

<b>ND YCC</b>	
Ross Birney .....	Darcy Gibbins
<b>State Penitentiary</b>	
Ronald Stotz.....	Larry Wall
<b>JRCC</b> .....	Lucille Morlock

## RN Judy Frey Retires

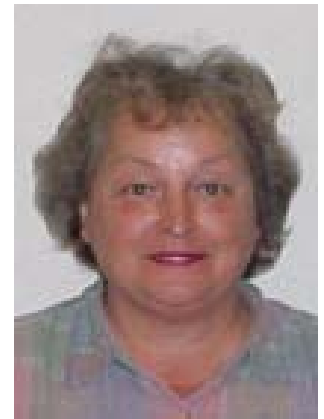
By Vickie Steckler, Administrative Officer II  
DOCR Prisons Division / JRCC

RN II Judy Frey retired from the James River Correctional Center after 21 years of state service. Judy started working for the North Dakota State Hospital on August 19, 1985. She began her career there as a Registered Nurse III and was a night supervisor in charge of the LaHaug building, GM building, and the Adolescent Center. She worked in that position for approximately one year

and in July 1986 moved to the GM2 building where she was a Registered Nurse II. Judy worked various other positions such as GM3, adolescent alcoholic ward, and then to the forensic ward where she went to part time status.

Judy was hired by the James River Correctional Center on May 18, 1998, and works a part-time position as a Registered Nurse II.

RN Frey was awarded



JRCC Employee of Month in May 2000. In November 2002, Judy was awarded a Certificate of Commendation for her life saving actions when she was the on call nurse.

## We The People

By Rebecca Donovan, Educational Teacher  
DOCR / Youth Correctional Center

Rebecca Donovan, US government teacher from NDYCC, attended a National Juvenile Justice Practitioners Institute workshop at the University of San Diego, CA, this summer in July sponsored by the Center for Civic Education and funded by the US Dept of Education with approval of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

The workshop provided a complete curriculum called "We the People" with supplementary materials. Fifty-two teachers from all across the country met at the beautiful USD campus to study and learn the US

Constitution. Their days were divided in half with the morning devoted to distinguished judicial scholars speaking on various constitutional issues. In the afternoons they were divided into eight teams to prepare for mock Congressional hearings that were presented on the final day of class. The evenings were then spent in rigorous study with their mentors doing research and "girding for battle"!

Although the workshop was a lot of work, it also gave the participants a chance to bond with colleagues from other parts of the country. Our teams were divided according to what type of

school the participant was from; for example, elementary teachers were together, junior high teachers together, and the juvenile justice teachers or JJ's were together. Juvenile justice teachers also met separately during the pedagogy period. The eight days culminated in the mock Congressional hearings which were presented to distinguished Constitutional scholars from the area, including law professors, judges and lawyers. It was a tense time for all involved but everyone came through no worse for the wear. It was a very challenging, yet rewarding experience.



## Inmates Crocheting for Families of Slain Soldiers

Published in the Jamestown Sun 09/06/06  
DOCR Prisons Division / JRCC

JAMESTOWN (AP) — Inmates at the James River Correctional Center (JRCC) who have learned how to crochet are using their new talents to make blankets for families who have lost soldiers in Iraq.

"When this blanket calls out of a closet or tumbles off the couch, it will say 'we remember with you this loss,'" prison chaplain Mark Haines said. "Somebody besides them remembers this as a life that had meaning."

The Jamestown inmates have been crocheting since the spring of 2004, when a church member asked for their help. They have made clothing for infants in Africa, for babies with AIDS in California and for homeless children.

Haines said the crocheting program has evolved from a single inmate. That inmate taught others how to crochet; those inmates in turn taught others.

A12 Wednesday, September 6, 2006

state/region

The Jamestown Sun

### Inmates crocheting for families of slain soldiers



AP photo  
Mark Haines, chaplain at the James River Correctional Center in Jamestown, kneels with three blankets made by inmates at the prison Aug. 17. The inmates crochet the blankets and donate them to families who have lost soldiers in Iraq.

JAMESTOWN (AP) — Inmates at the James River Correctional Center who have learned how to crochet are using their new talents to make blankets for families who have lost soldiers in Iraq. "When this blanket falls out of a closet or tumbles off the couch, it will say 'we remember with you this loss,'" prison chaplain Mark Haines said. "Somebody besides them remembers this as a life that had meaning."

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"It usually starts with somebody in the (prison) activity

*"This (flag blanket) is something to snuggle up with. I can see kids wrapped up in it, watching television, having popcorn, and remembering the person the blanket was given for."*

Mark Haines  
chaplain, James River  
Correctional Center

room, noticing somebody crocheting and asking about it," Haines said.

There is a core group of seven active crocheters, and a total of about 15 inmates involved, he said. For the past year, the inmates have been making blankets for families of slain soldiers.

Haines, who delivers the blankets, said he has felt the sadness of families who lost loved ones. "But it's not a sad-

ness without hope," he said. He said the blankets are aimed at helping the families cope, and remember.

"This (flag blanket) is something to snuggle up with," he said. "I can see kids wrapped up in it, watching television, having popcorn, and remembering the person the blanket was given for."

Officials said the crocheting program also benefits the inmates. Haines said most of them "are on a journey of sorts that requires a great deal of self-evaluation and honest facing up to questions."

There is therapeutic value in feeling good about doing something productive, said Don Redmann, the prison warden. Haines said he posts the thank-you notes the inmates get, so they can see how much their work meant.

Redmann said he has never heard of a case where a male inmate has been teased for taking up crocheting.

"They know what (the work) is going for," he said.

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## Prisons Division Brings Corrections to the Forefront of Shooting Competition

By Stewart Baumgartner, Unit Manager  
DOCR Prisons Division / JRCC

A buzzer sounds and the roar of gunfire erupts; this was a common experience for a number of Prisons Division employees over the past year and a half. In May of 2005, the newly established Director's Dozen became a weekly event. The year long competition's first year brought 26 Prisons Division employees to an atmosphere of friendly rivalry in the quest to establish the top three scores per shooter.

The first year of the competition paid huge dividends for shooters like Captain Ben Kennelly and COII Chris Kinzler from JRCC who each improved their overall scores by an average of more than 60 points per course of fire, while numerous others made improvements of 20 to 30 points. The second year of the competition is progressing as well, with shooters

maintaining and improving upon the progress made last year.

The dedication of the Prisons Division shooters in the Director's Dozen competition resulted in an extra bonus at this year's North Dakota Peace Officers Association annual conference. The Prisons Division had four shooters place in top eight of the Governors 20, which is a statewide competition open to all law enforcement officers. Those shooters were Stewart Baumgartner #3, Jeff Lorenz #6, Ben Kennelly #7, and Tad Granmoe #8 all of JRCC. The same four shooters represented the Prisons Division, as a four-person team at the conference, and were able to unseat the long undefeated Stark County Sheriffs Department, and brought home the traveling trophy for highest aggregate team score.

Prisons Division shooters were able to take a number of other awards at the conference including:

### 1st Place ~ Four Person Sharpshooter Pistol Team

(Baumgartner, Granmoe, Kennelly, Lorenz)

### 2nd Place ~ Four Person Sharpshooter Pistol Team

(Connie Hackman, Kevin Arthaud, Joe Bardell, Laura McCleary)

### 1st Place ~ Two Person Marksman Pistol Team

### 1st Place ~ Two Person Sharpshooter Pistol Team

(Baumgartner, Granmoe)

### 2nd Place ~ Two Person Sharpshooter Pistol Team

(Kennelly, Lorenz)

### 3rd Place ~ Four Person Tactical Match

(Teage Kinzell, Kennelly, Lorenz, Granmoe)

### 1st Place ~ Individual Marksman

(Joe Bardell)

### 2nd Place ~ Individual Marksman

(Connie Hackman)

### 1st Place ~ Individual Sharpshooter

(Baumgartner)

### 2nd Place ~ Individual Sharpshooter

(Granmoe)

The shooters were not the only staff leaving an impression at this year's conference. Ben Kennelly and Kevin Arthaud both took first place in their age divisions for the 5K Run, with Ben Kennelly winning the event overall and Kevin Arthaud placing second. Warden Tim Schuetzle made a similar showing in the Golf Tournament with his win in the Championship Flight.

The competition for the year is ending and the results for this year's Directors Dozen will soon be in. Regardless of the ranking that a shooter attains, no one will say they did not enjoy the competition and camaraderie they experienced this year. Thank you to all who participated and congratulations!

## Congratulations to Kevin Arthaud!

DOCR Prisons Division / JRCC

Congratulations to Kevin Arthaud for

winning the Special Olympics North Dakota "Flame of Hope" Award.

State Awards are presented to those for their outstanding

dedication to the mission and athletes of Special Olympics.



## Medicine With A Mission



Published in the  
**Fall 2006 - Vol. 31, No. 4 Issue**  
of **North Dakota Medicine**

DOCR Prisons Division / NDSP

In the state's prison population, "we knew we had an issue, and we knew we had to deal with it." The "issue," said Kathleen Bachmeier (MSN '90), director of medical services at the North Dakota Penitentiary in Bismarck, is the explosion in the number of inmates who have contracted active hepatitis C due to drug use (mostly methamphetamine) or infection from tattooing with dirty needles.

Research conducted by a team of four physicians and two nurses has demonstrated that an alternative, less costly drug regimen is effective for treating prisoners with hepatitis C. The team includes Kent Martin, M.D., clinical associate professor of family medicine; Jeff Hostetter, M.D. (Bismarck Family Medicine Residency '03), assistant professor of family medicine and assistant program director at the UND Center for Family Medicine-Bismarck; Olimpia Rauta, M.D. (Bismarck Family Medicine Residency '06); John Hagan, M.D., clinical assistant professor of internal medicine, with the North Dakota State Prisons Division; Bachmeier, and Beth Taghon, a nurse at the state penitentiary, all of Bismarck.

At the Center for Disease Control's National Hepatitis C Conference last year, they presented a poster on their preliminary findings about the efficacy of a hepatitis C treatment that is given to prisoners in the state's correctional facilities. They explained their initial success in treating hepatitis C with consensus interferon rather than peginterferon alpha-2b, the more common regimen.

Spike in meth use reflected in

prison population

The epidemic rise in methamphetamine use in North Dakota has fueled a huge increase in the number of prisoners who have active hepatitis C in North Dakota prisons. The increasing prevalence of the disease is "striking," said Hagan, who teaches UND medical students and residents in Bismarck. "It's been explosive as the rate of IV meth use has grown."

In order to address this public health emergency, the medical staff at the state's Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (DOCR) enlisted the help of Martin, infectious disease specialist with the Quain & Ramstad Clinic in Bismarck. Martin and Hostetter, who have been working in this area for several years, agreed to track and write up the results.

Initial treatment with peginterferon alpha-2b proved to be too costly to maintain for the large number of prisoners who require treatment, Martin said. In addition, the side effect rate in the prison population was unacceptably high, and treating these side effects is costly. His research uncovered little-known data that showed consensus interferon could be equally efficacious and has a much lower side effect rate.

The DOCR implemented this treatment regimen and Hostetter, Hagan and Rauta have tracked the results.

Alternative treatment reduces cost

Initial data is very promising and patients are tolerating the therapy much better, according to Martin. Added advantages are: the cost of medications is 35 percent less and the need for subspecialty referral has declined to near zero.

Using the standard regimen, the cost of treating a prisoner was \$22,000 per year; with the



*Beth Taghon, a nurse at the state penitentiary, gives inmate Stuart Kelly an injection of consensus interferon, an alternative treatment for hepatitis C.*

alternative treatment, that cost has been lowered to \$14,000. The result has been an effective treatment regimen that is sustainable within the current medical budget of the DOCR.

"We were able to show excellent treatment results," he said. "Our results of success and treatment are as good or better (than the traditional regimen). We are able to treat many more people and bring more effective treatment to more people."

"Even if we haven't changed behaviors, the inmates we've treated -- when they're released -- won't be able to infect anyone else," he emphasized.

The group is pleased that initial findings have been well-received. Data collection is ongoing and there are plans to submit final results for publication.

'Really a team effort'

"It's a wonderful partnership," said Bachmeier, who championed the project and requested the state legislature to fund it. "The prison couldn't have done it alone. This is really a team effort... We've done all this with no extra money. It started from very, very humble, modest beginnings."

"We work with people who really want to change their lives," she said. "We want to be good stewards of the state's money; we select prisoners who are compliant with the drug and alcohol treatment and are stable emotionally," based on psychiatric assessment. Prisoners must go through six months of close monitoring

before ever entering into treatment.

In what might be described as a snowball effect, Martin and Hostetter were invited to present their findings at a meeting of the American Corrections Association in August at Charlotte, NC. And the CDC has approached the researchers about "putting our program on their Web site as an outstanding prisons hepatitis C model," Hostetter said.

A resource for the state

"One of the roles of physicians, residents and faculty in state-supported academic medical institutions is to be a resource for the state," Hostetter said. "This is the perfect setting where the UND Department of Family and Community Medicine can assist another state agency by utilizing our resources to enrich their programs."

"It is important for resident-physicians to be involved in research in order to teach them how progress in medicine is truly made," he emphasized. "Most significant medical advances can be traced to community clinicians who have made astute observations that researchers have only further elucidated."

It is important for faculty to give residents the skills to function in this arena of family medicine as well as day-to-day clinical practice."

*-Pamela D. Knudson*

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***WE'RE ON THE WEB!***  
***WWW.ND.GOV/DOCR/***

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**DOCR MISSION STATEMENT**

*Our Mission Is...*

*To protect the public while providing a safe and humane environment for both adults and juveniles placed in the Department's care and custody. The Department will carry out the judgments of the North Dakota courts to both incarcerate inmates for the protection of society and to provide rehabilitative programs in an effort to successfully reintegrate offenders back into society.*

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**Building Cornerstones of Education**

By Cindy Dykema, Educational Teacher  
DOCR / Youth Correctional Center

The North Dakota Association for Lifelong Learners (NDALL) Fall Conference was held September 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Radisson Inn in Bismarck. Approximately 154 educators from across the state attended representing the three associated programs, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers, Even Start, and Adult Basic Education. Building Cornerstones of Education was the theme of the conference.

Senator Rich Wardner, Dickinson, spoke to the entire group about ways

citizens can work with legislators successfully and how to introduce legislation. He also answered questions about how educators should effectively communicate with legislators.

Attendees could choose from a plethora of excellent breakout sessions. Laurel Kaae, Williston, regarding Hot Potatoes, delivered a first-rate session. She demonstrated six applications that enable teachers to create interactive exercises for students using the computer and the World Wide Web. Dr. Rod

Jonas, University of Mary, facilitated an informative and thought provoking discussion regarding educational standards and benchmarks. Educators from across the state were able to see and hear the fantastic reading gains made by students as a result of a new reading program in use in the Bismarck District, READ RIGHT. Dr. John Salwei, Bismarck Public Schools, outlined the management and implementation of strategies used by the program. The North Dakota Youth Correctional is in the second year of the READ

RIGHT program and is experiencing the phenomenal results also.

A real highlight of the conference was having Mariam Gilbertson, English teacher at the North Dakota State Penitentiary, named Outstanding Educator of the Year. Mariam was nominated by her peers and selected from a group of candidates. She was presented with a framed original watercolor print. Congratulations on a well-deserved award that has demonstrated Building Corner Stones of Education.